

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP

CPYRGHT

FOIAb3b

Your concern, in the editorial "Third Choice in Cuba," seems to be not with humane solutions but with the preservation of U.S. prestige and power. Your advocacy of revolution by international conspiracy shows the arrogant, callous commitment to political meddling and hypocritical world-saving which has long afflicted American foreign policy.

We have no right to "contain" Cuba, to banish her from the family of nations. We have no right to try to curb her alliances, having rejected negotiation ourselves. We have no right to intervene in her internal affairs, no matter how their aroma offends us.

Then what overriding excuse have we for attempting to subvert Castro by starving the people or to foment uprising by cloak and dagger and CIA? We took no such measures when Batista was in power, so the answer cannot be an allergy to undemocratic regimes. The Soviets pose no new threat there; our President has said so. Frustration is the answer, isn't it? Frustration at the failure of our clumsy attempt to manipulate Cuban politics while looking the other way. The Cubans embarrassed us by failing to respond in the right spirit; so we will be avenged.

I suggest a fourth choice. Bury our shoddy pride. Restore the sugar quota; reopen trade. (Castro will then negotiate compensation for expropriated properties.) Next, take bolder steps: recognize Castro, revive our diplomatic establishment in Cuba, welcome the Cuban representatives here; offer massive technical assistance, loans for development, student scholarships; make a standing offer of statehood; convert Guantanamo into an American university for Cubans (Hemingway University, of course).

In a word, we can face reality, proclaim charity, and free ourselves to compete constructively with communism, instead of trying to wish it, starve it, or blast it off our doorstep. What would we stand to lose?

That it might long remain to be seen. But we could safely afford to wait—and to help only if it is asked. Cuba can't

hurt us. JOHN PARKER,
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